

39. (Amended) An open-sided spinal fluid collection system comprising:
- a) a test tube rack structured and arranged to support a plurality of test tubes;
 - b) wherein said test tube rack comprises at least one open side;
 - c) wherein said test tube rack further comprises at least one needle aperture structured and arranged to support an element selected from a group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet, and a needle sleeve.
40. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 39 further comprising two side panels and two open sides.
41. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 39 wherein the bottom shelf comprises indentations structured and arranged to support test tubes.
42. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 39 wherein the test tube rack further comprises a handle shelf.
43. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 42 wherein said handle shelf comprises a plurality of test tube apertures to support test tubes and at least one needle aperture to support an element selected from the group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet, and a needle sleeve.
44. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 40 wherein the test tube rack further comprises a handle.
45. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 40 wherein the test tube rack further comprises an inside shelf.
46. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 45 wherein said inside shelf comprises a plurality of test tube apertures to support test tubes and at least one needle holder to support an element selected from said group.

47 (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 40 wherein the test tube rack comprises three test tube apertures to support three test tubes.

48 (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 40 wherein the test tube rack comprises four test tube apertures to support four test tubes.

49 (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 40 wherein the test tube rack comprises two needle apertures to support two elements selected from said group.

50 50. (Amended) The open-sided spinal fluid collection system of claim 39 further comprising a spinal needle and at least one CSF tube.

52. (Amended) A spinal fluid collection system comprising at least one CSF tube and an open-sided test tube rack structured and arranged to support a plurality of test tubes wherein said test tube rack comprises a top shelf, a bottom shelf and two needle apertures, wherein each needle aperture is structured and arranged to support an element selected from the group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet and a needle sleeve.

53. A sterile kit for collecting cerebrospinal fluid comprising:

- a) a test tube rack having at least one open side;
- b) at least one CSF tube; and,
- c) a spinal tap needle

wherein the test tube rack, the at least one CSF tube and the spinal tap needle are contained in a sterile package.

54. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack comprises a top shelf and a bottom shelf and wherein the bottom shelf comprises indentations structured and arranged to support test tubes.

55. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack comprising a handle shelf.

56. The sterile kit of claim 55 wherein said handle shelf comprises a plurality of test tube apertures to support test tubes and at least one needle aperture to support an element selected from the group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet and a needle sleeve.

57. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack further comprises a handle.

58. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack further comprises an inside shelf.

59. The sterile kit of claim 58 wherein said inside shelf comprises a plurality of test tube apertures to support test tubes and at least one needle holder to support an element selected from the group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet and a needle sleeve.

60. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack comprises three test tube apertures to support three test tubes.

61. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the test tube rack comprises two needle apertures to support two elements selected from the group consisting of a spinal tap needle, a stylet and a needle sleeve.

62. The sterile kit of claim 53 wherein the sterile kit further comprises an element selected from the group consisting of a stylet and a needle sleeve.

63. The sterile kit of claim 56 wherein the needle aperture is larger than the cross sectional measurement of a spinal tap needle but is smaller than the cross sectional measurement of a CSF tube.
